



PRESS RELEASE

Vietnam Veterans of America

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 11, 2019

No. 19-13

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301-996-0901

Gen. Wesley Clark to be Honored at Vietnam Veterans of America's 19th National Convention

(Washington, D.C.)– Gen. Wesley Clark, who retired from the Army as a four-star general in 2000, will receive the Vietnam Veterans of America Lifetime Achievement Award on Thursday, July 18, during VVA's 19th biennial National Convention in Spokane, Washington, before the more than 700 Vietnam War veteran delegates from VVA chapters across the country.

“It's difficult to envision a more accomplished resume than that of Gen. Clark,” said VVA president John Rowan. “For starters, he graduated with a National Merit Scholarship from high school; he was first in the class of '66 at West Point; and he won a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University, where he earned B.A. and M.A. degrees in philosophy, politics, and economics.

From May 1969 to February 1970, Gen. Clark served in the Vietnam War as the commanding officer of a 1st Infantry Division mechanized infantry company. His tour ended after he was shot four times in a firefight, an engagement for which he received a Bronze Star and a Silver Star, as well as the Purple Heart. After the war, he served as a White House fellow in the Ford administration in 1975-76.

In the 1990s Gen. Clark commanded the First Cavalry Division at Fort Hood; he served as the lead negotiator for the Bosnian Peace Accords in 1995; then as Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Southern Command in Panama, and later of the U.S. European Command. His final military assignment was as NATO Supreme Allied Commander in Europe from 1997-2000.

Today, Gen. Clark runs his own strategic consulting firm. He is the recipient of many awards: the Presidential Medal of Freedom; the Defense Distinguished Service Medal; honorary knighthoods from the U.K. and the Netherlands; and Commander of the Legion of Honor from France, among others.

